

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 183203

FOL RPT USUN 2953 SENT ACTION LONDON SECSTATE INFO BONN
BUCHAREST DAR ES SALAAM GABORONE KHARTOUM LAGOS LIBREVILLE
LUSAKA MAPUTO OTTAWA PARIS PRETORIA JUL 19, 1978

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN NEW YORK 02953

LONDON PLEASE PASS TO USDEL SECRETARY

BUCHAREST FOR AMBASSADOR YOUNG

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, SF, WA

SUBJECT: NAMIBIA: DEVELOPMENTS

1. WE UNDERSTAND FROM THE OTHER MEMBERS OF THE
CONTACT GROUP THAT WHILE IN BONN THE FIVE FOREIGN MINISTERS
RECOMMENDED THAT A FOLLOW-UP APPROACH BE MADE TO SOUTH
AFRICAN FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA EXPLAINING THE SECURITY
COUNCIL TIMETABLE WE ENVISAGE. IN THIS REGARD THE
CONTACT GROUP AGREED TO SUGGEST THAT SUCH AN APPROACH
BE POSTPONED UNTIL AFTER WE RECEIVE VORSTER'S RESPONSE
TO THE MESSAGES FROM HEADS OF GOVERNMENT AND
UNTIL CONSULTATIONS HERE AND IN KHARTOUM CONFIRM THE
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EXPECTED SCHEDULE OF SECURITY COUNCIL MEETINGS. IN
ADDITION, WE AT USUN ARE VERY CONCERNED AT THE PROSPECT
OF A FURTHER APPROACH TO BOTHA AND FEEL THAT FOURIE
OR PERHAPS VAN HEERDEN WOULD BE PREFERABLE AND MORE
LIKELY TO RECEIVE SUCH AN APPROACH CONSTRUCTIVELY.
IN ADDITION, AMB. MCHENRY IS IN TOUCH WITH SOUTH AFRICAN
EKSTEEN SEVERAL TIMES EACH DAY. EKSTEEN IS FULLY

INFORMED AND UNDOUBTEDLY REPORTS FULLY. COMMENT. THE CONTACT GROUP RECOGNIZES THAT COURTESY REQUIRES AN APPROACH TO THE SOUTH AFRICANS REGARDING SECURITY COUNCIL TIMING BEFORE LONG. THE GROUP WILL DRAFT TALKING POINTS AS SOON AS WE LEARN OF VORSTER'S RESPONSE AND HAVE A BETTER IDEA OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL SCENARIO. END COMMENT.

2. THE UN SECRETARIAT HAS INFORMED US THAT THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S DISCUSSIONS WITH AFRICANS IN KHARTOUM REFLECT A GENERAL READINESS TO BEGIN FORMAL SECURITY COUNCIL CONSIDERATION OF NAMIBIA ON TUESDAY, JULY 25. WALDHEIM REPORTEDLY IS TRYING TO ASCERTAIN SAM NUJOMA'S TRAVEL PLANS AND IS CONCERNED BY INDICATIONS THAT NUJOMA MIGHT NOT WISH TO BE IN NEW YORK UNTIL JULY 26 OR 27 AT THE EARLIEST. ZAMBIAN PRESIDENT KAUNDA, REFLECTING THE VIEWS OF THE FRONTLINE, REPORTEDLY TOLD WALDHEIM THAT THEY WANT TO MOVE SWIFTLY TO THE SECURITY COUNCIL, IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE CLOSE OF THE KHARTOUM SUMMIT. MCHENRY UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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